

and merchants, and promised high remuneration to their diligence. Captain Osborne seems to have been the first civil governor appointed with authority to administer oaths, and to appoint justices of the peace, and other officers to regulate abuses, and preserve the tranquillity of the island. He accordingly made the best and most salutary arrangements for effecting the good purpose of the Crown; but he had many prejudices and difficulties to encounter, in bringing people of low habits and manners, and dissolute principles, to a sense of order and an inclination to honesty and fair dealing. This required every precaution and address, and could alone be the work of time, patience, and unshaken perseverance. After considerable opposition on the part of the merchants, and a ferment that has not subsided to this day; in 1764, a custom-house was built, officers were appointed, and fees established; which contributed, in the most essen-